

New York Tribune

First to Last—the Truth: News—Editorials—Advertisements—Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1918

Owned and published daily by The Tribune Association, a New York Corporation. Gordon Field, President; G. Verow Rogers, Vice-President; Richard H. Lee, Secretary; F. A. Suter, Treasurer. Address: Tribune Building, 154 Nassau Street, New York. Telephone, Beckman 3000.

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that we shall again see 90 cents for wheat, 50 cents for corn, 20 cents for eggs and butter, and 6 or 7 cents for cotton. The President says that "if there should be peace or increased shipping available before the middle of 1920 Europe will naturally supply itself from the large stores of much cheaper wheat now in the southern hemisphere; and, therefore, the government is undertaking a risk which might in such event result in a national loss of as much as \$500,000,000 through an unsalable surplus, or, in any event, in maintaining a high level of prices to our own people for a long period subsequent to freedom in the world's markets."

Similar ideas are found to have prevailed during the Civil War, and especially toward its close, when prices rose to a great height. We know, of course, that nothing of the sort happened. So far from that, after the war was ended prices rose still higher, and especially, for example, the prices of corn and wheat and cotton; in other words, just those things which everybody thought would fall very rapidly. In point of fact it was more than thirty years after the Civil War began before the general run of prices had again fallen to anything like the same level.

The Acts of the F. T. C.

It is a peculiarity of our highly personal form of government that criticism of the executive heads of departments and boards should inevitably seem, and should be taken, as criticism of the President himself. That is why one hesitates to speak frankly of the character and work of the Federal Trade Commission. Its "reports" or presentations have become so violent, irresponsible and inflammatory, assailing almost every class of business, as to bring at last a formal protest from the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. The committee appointed to take up the scandalous charges of the Federal Trade Commission included Mr. W. L. Saunders, chairman of the Naval Consulting Board; Professor Seager, of Columbia University; Mr. Edward A. Filene, of Boston, and other representative business men. They drew up a report to the President on the extraordinary antics of the commission, which is spending a great deal of money on "investigations" which come to nothing except violent and incendiary and indiscriminate attacks upon business enterprise. Anarchists, socialists and the discontented and evil-minded, needing fuel and fodder for their attacks upon the government and upon society, have only to quote verbatim from the "findings" of this body. The Associated Press report says that the presentation of this committee's report to the President was received at the White House in complete silence, or, rather, by a letter from Mr. Tumulty. Nevertheless it is unbelievable that the matter will be ignored and that the Federal Trade Commission will be allowed to continue in its reckless course.

Results in Siberia

Many military men were skeptical about the possibilities of Allied intervention in Russia. It was only after long urging that our government consented to take part in a joint expedition into Siberia for the purpose of establishing communications from the Pacific and from Manchuria with the Czech-Slovak forces west of Irkutsk.

The military difficulties of such an undertaking were greatly exaggerated. The wonderful success of the Czech-Slovaks in Siberia had itself proved how easy it was for Allied forces to operate there, in spite of the country's magnificent scale of distances. The Czech-Slovak relief expedition—long delayed—has been under way only two or three weeks. But it has already brought results which most surprise the skeptics.

A dispatch to The London Daily Mail from Harbin, dated Tuesday, said that communication with the marooned Czech-Slovaks had already been effected. "There is now an uninterrupted chain of Allied troops from Pensa, on the Volga in Europe, to Vladivostok."

This announcement may have been slightly anticipatory. But it is clear that a junction between Allied troops and Russian volunteers, moving west from Manchuria, and Czech-Slovaks and Russian volunteers, moving east from Irkutsk, is near at hand. The closing of the gap will be due mainly to the indefatigable energy of the Czech-Slovaks.

Czech-Slovak forces, supported by anti-Bolshevik Russians, have pushed east from Irkutsk well into Transbaikalia. Following the railroad around the southern end of Lake Baikal, and crossing the lake on the railroad ferry, they took Verkhne-Udinsk, a town on the Siberian railroad about fifty miles east of the lake, whence a branch line runs south across the Mongolian border. Detachments from the main force have pushed across the mountains and captured Selengsk, half way down the branch line, and Kiakhta, near its terminus on the Chinese boundary line. The Red Guards left in this region have apparently been driven over into China.

From Verkhne-Udinsk the main Czech-Slovak body has advanced east on the Siberian main line to beyond Petrovsk. At that point they had covered half of the two hundred mile journey from Lake Baikal to Chita, the capital of Transbaikalia and the main Red Guard base in that province.

It is about 175 miles from Chita to the Manchurian frontier. About a week ago General Semenov's army started from the Chinese border for Chita. It met with some opposition, but it has taken a number of railroad stations and is now supposed to be near the Onon River, which crosses the railroad at Aga, about half way to Chita. Semenov's troops are not of the best quality. But they are probably quite as good as the Red Guards. Japanese are moving up to support them, and the Red Guards have a wholesome dread of real fighting men like the Japs and the Czech-Slovaks.

In the Siberian maritime province the Allied forces have entirely cleared the Siberian railway from Nikolsk to the Chinese border. So that only the little strip about Chita in Transbaikalia needs to be recovered in order to put the whole transcontinental line from Vladivostok to the Volga in Allied hands.

The Japanese are driving the Red Guards in the coast province up the Ussuri River toward Khabarovsk. Bolshevik power in Siberia is rapidly waning. The people generally want a return to tranquility and order. They will probably be glad to say goodbye to the Red Guards and the Teuton ex-prisoners who have been practising anarchy under the pretence of sustaining the phantom authority of the Moscow Soviet government.

The Siberian expedition has already more than justified itself as a wise exercise of military judgment.

Restricting Unessential Loans

Much attention has been drawn to an article in "The Journal of the American Bankers' Association," the official organ of the association, sharply criticising the Federal Reserve Board for its failure to raise the rediscount rate to the level of the prevailing rate for commercial loans, or even higher. The rate for commercial loans now runs at about 6 per cent, whereas the average rediscount rate of the Federal Reserve banks in August was 4.4 per cent. It is pointed out that it is directly the reverse with the Bank of England and of other rediscount banks. In England the official rate of the bank is invariably higher than the private rate. It is, for example, now 5 per cent, whereas the call rate for money has been around 3 per cent. It is obvious that with the official rate above the commercial rate there is no temptation to rediscount. If this is done the bank or its customers are penalized. In this country we have at present just the opposite situation. There is every temptation to carry loans to the Reserve Bank for rediscount, and this open opportunity has resulted in an expansion of rediscounts by more than a billion of dollars in a year. No one can suggest that this is a healthy state of affairs.

All this has a very direct bearing on the question of restricting loans to the makers of luxuries and non-essentials. The Reserve Board has appealed to the individual banks to exercise a sharp discrimination without offering any clear rule for the banks to follow. "The Journal of the Bankers' Association" points out that this is clearly passing the buck to the bankers, when the real responsibility should rest with the Federal Reserve Board. That is what the board was created for. "The Journal" says:

"Increasing the rate is the surest way to restrict the demand for credit. The Federal Reserve Board has not been permitted to have recourse to this remedy because the Treasury officials will not give heed to the condition of the money market."

In other words, it is charged that the Federal Reserve Board has been under the influence of the Treasury policy, which has been to keep the money rate low in order to float the Liberty loans freely. So far there has been little evidence of any enthusiastic response to the Reserve Board's appeal to the bankers to put the screws on their customers.

In the eight-billion-dollar revenue bill Mr. McAdoo, thinking of revenue first, got the war profits tax as he wanted it, and Mr. Kitchen, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, thinking always of how to make the world free from the tyranny of capital, got the excess profits tax almost as he wanted it. This is not in fact a war tax at all. It is legislation to abate "a cessary of great private profits in big business. It asserts that profits above approximately 10 per cent are immoral and anti-social and shall for that reason be progressively confiscated."

We think it may be taken almost for granted that Alfred L. Becker, the defeated anti-organization candidate for Attorney General on the Lewis ticket, will be asked to stay in his present job, which is that of Assistant Attorney General, and go on with his work against sedition and disloyalism. If the state does not keep him the Federal government will be glad to get him.

If "Al" Smith had not the quality of personal loyalty we should respect him less; but because he has it his election to the office of Governor at this time would be a misfortune of great measure. He would be loyal to Tammany, not out of weakness, but as a man neither too squeamish to know his friends nor too good to go the whole way with them.

Where Whacks Are Hooverized

William Randolph Hearst has received whacks from various and scattered sources lately, but among those whose voices have not been raised against him is Senator Reed, of Missouri. A few years ago "Hearst's Magazine" published an article about Senator Reed which looked like an effort to get him into the limelight as a Presidential possibility.

The Lowly One

Somehow, no matter how the fortunes of war, there is never any shortage of carrots.

Chorus Girls

HER voice was like rose-fragrance wafting in the wind. She seemed a shadow, stained with shadow, colors, swimming through waves of sunlight. Perhaps her heart was an old minstrel. Sleepily pawing at his little mandolin. MAXWELL BODENHEIM.

No Bargains

By Caspar Whitney

(Special Cable to The Tribune)

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PARIS, Sept. 4.—The recent ringing message of Senator Lodge demanding that there be no discussion with Germany regarding peace terms finds a ready and warm response on this side. At an unofficial dinner gathering last night, attended by representative Frenchmen, several Englishmen, Belgians and Americans, lawyers, educators, business men, officers and a few political persons, reference was made to Senator Lodge's declaration and it was heartily applauded and universally indorsed.

There is a distinct and strong feeling here among men of all nationalities against any so-called peace conference after the war in which Germany shall have a voice. The sentiment grows more and more in the rear, as it always has been on the front, that the war be fought to an unconditional surrender, after which Germany shall be given terms of peace dictated by the Allied nations. We can open no controversial door with Germany now or on her forthcoming inevitable and complete defeat.

As the President said yesterday, "Germany is striking at what free men everywhere desire and must have the right to determine, their own destiny."

At the conclusion of this terrible struggle which Germany has thrust upon us we must spread no bargain table to accommodate her political or commercial greed or to save the face of her abominable leaders, who, were justice served, should all be hanged. The German nation is a despised outlaw before God and man and must be treated as such when we have overcome the Hun hosts and the Allied representatives gather to deliver their ultimatum for the future keeping of the world peace and the sanctity of men's homes. Hundreds of thousands of British and French have given their lives in France, and America's sons are now fighting and dying in France that the force of brutal night, savagely directed, shall not prevail over the principles of justice and honorable independence. Their sacrifice must not have been in vain through the juggling of peace terms after victory has been won on the battlefield. Germany's case has been tried. Her defence has been heard and rejected. Sentence must be given the same as to any other vile and dangerous criminal.

It is not enough that America shall stand now united for war to the utter vanquishment of the Boche military command. After victory she must stand behind the silent, eloquent demand of those who made the supreme sacrifice for the freedom of the world.

A Sob Traitor

By Sarah Addington

THE sob-sister has come into her own. No more recipes, no more fashion hints, no more cheerful little blurbs on women this or female that, no more tearful little squibs about the beautiful murderers. For that is all the old stuff—and the new is the editing and running of a real newspaper by no less people than women themselves, that enterprise just announced for "The Atlantic City Evening Union."

Sob-sisters are a race to themselves; everybody knows that. They are women who grow around at night writing up murders, if there are any, and instigating them if there are not. They are women who make friends with the millionaire's butler and write up the costume ball. They are women who appear in the movies in \$100 suits (ah! with a neat notebook and a gold tipped pencil. Didn't the movie director ever see the wads of copy paper stuffed in our pockets and that scribbly yellow newspaper pencil that is the undying mark of the trade? These are newspaper women, as the race is written down in the minds of those who don't know.

But whatever they have been since Nellie Bly first did the trick is nothing now, for these enterprising ones in Atlantic City have seen-sawed 'way up in the game, and we who have been suddenly bounced down to the ground can only look up at them and wonder how they did it. They are going to be editors and business managers and all the other grand things in a newspaper office, and in a world where women are still used in newspapers to get the "woman's angle" (very often an obtuse angle), that's quite a move up.

Of course, to repeat the old line, there's no reason why women should not be editors and such. Women have set out to do everything in the world, and the newspaper business is not the supreme mystery of the earth. So they will probably get out a good paper and enjoy themselves hugely at the job.

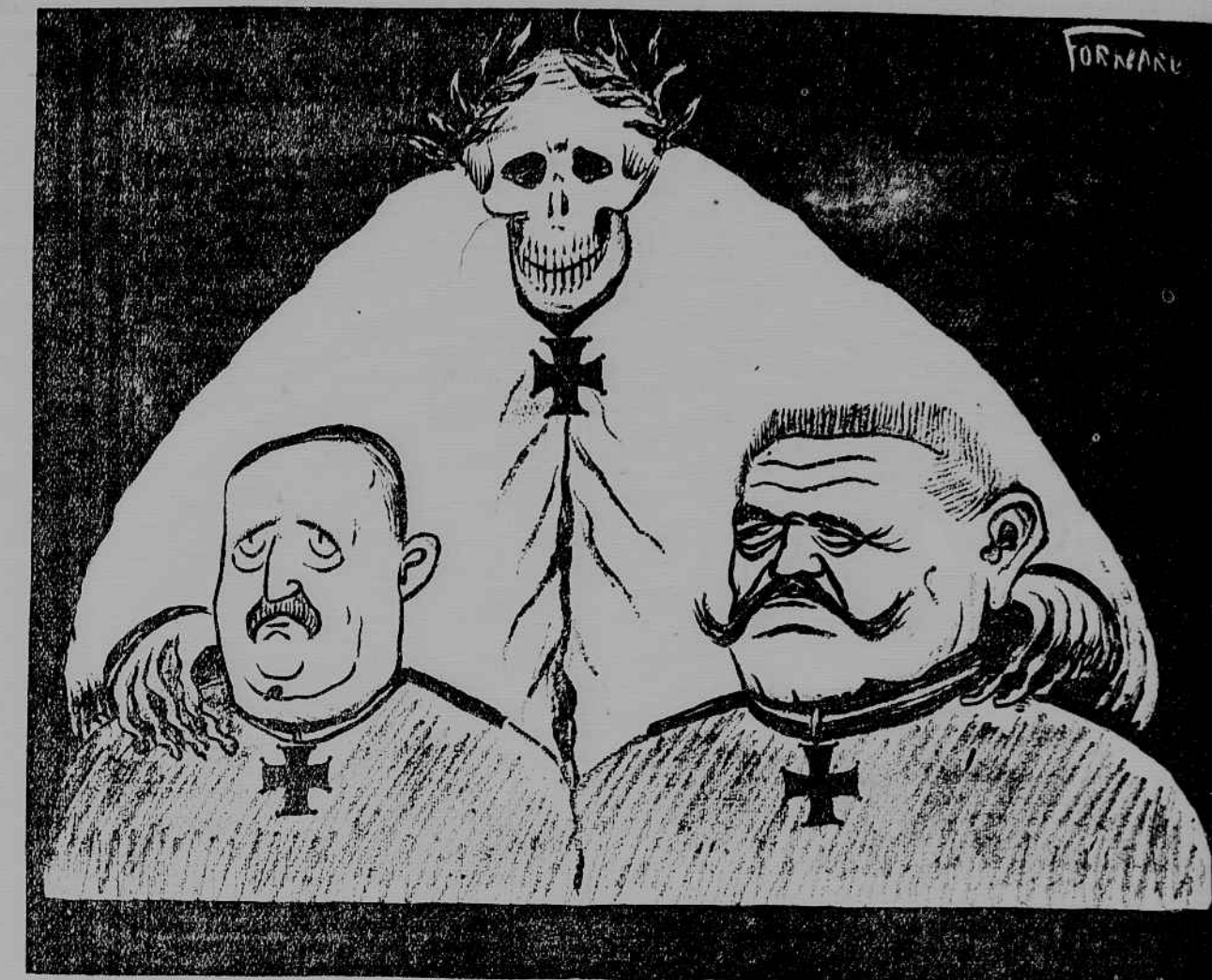
But we wonder what a manless newspaper office would be. No pleasant little cuspidors standing around to break the monotony of copy paper and newspapers strewn on our floor. No last night's coffee cups to greet you in the morning, left there by the flower of the staff, who must have his mugful just as the first edition goes to press. No cosy little games of cards between editions, no vicious-smelling pipes, no informal shirt sleeve conversations.

Indeed, the old way may be the best way, and as for us, we prefer co-education.

War Names in the News

Aniz-le-Chateau... a-nee-zee-luh-sha-to. Haut-Alaines... o-tal-lah-ne. Neuve Chapelle... nerve-sha-pell. Messines... messien. Manancourt... ma-nan-koor. Inchy-en-Artois... an-shee-anart-wah. Senécé... son-say. Ytres... ytre. Rumaucourt... ru-mo-koor.

THE TRINITY—HINDENBURG, LUDENDORFF, DEATH



R. R's. Sour or Sweet

Wistful View of the Private Owners

By Theodore M. Knappen

WASHINGTON, Aug. 31. Railway men are beginning to consider the problem of the restoration of the operation of the railways to their owners at the close of the war.

While as the law stands it provides that the present relation must terminate within eighteen months after the close of the war, and the railway corporations thus have a sort of negative advantage, it is realized that as time goes on the fact of government operation will more and more make for ultimate government ownership, the actual physical possession of the railways by the government being a position of great advantage.

Apparition of The Pork Barrel

It is conceded that the day of operation and manipulation of railways for purely private gain and advantage is gone forever. On the other hand, there is distrust of permanent government control of the vast railway properties and their near two million employees. The pork-barrel possibilities of Congressional control of the railways are unlimited, and with the ending of the war and the elimination of the patriotic urge toward efficiency, with the inevitable retirement of the great executives from the positions they now occupy at great sacrifice in the central administration, it is feared that standards will relax.

Yet it is admitted that private management and administration of the railways will never be satisfactory under the old conditions, with the slow-moving Interstate Commerce Commission maintaining oppressively low rates and enforcing all the old restrictive and hobbling legislation. In the new era private management must have the same freedom in seeking efficiency that the government now has.

In these circumstances the idea of a regional grouping of the railways under private ownership and control, with government representation in the directorates, is gaining strength. Such a grouping would do away with the high costs of competition and would retain the present advantages of operation of formerly competitive lines as a unit for the public benefit. The outlines of the necessary groups are already roughly established. Their boundaries are sketched by the locations of the great markets in which the ownership of goods changes hands. The cities that are these terminal markets mark the frontiers of transportation regions. The growth of the country and the evolution of trade and transport have thus determined the geographical divisions of the railways. The logic of facts has made them. To some extent these groups overlap, but their general outlines are well known and have long been recognized by the government, the railways themselves and the public.

The "trunk lines" represent one group, the Central Freight Association lines another; then there are the Southeastern lines, the Transcontinental lines, the New England lines, the Southwestern group, and so on. For public purposes the railways constituting each of these railway groups are one system and must be so treated. Within each of these groups there has grown up naturally a great web or tariff of rates which, while arbitrary and empirical, are nevertheless the fruit of experience. These

The New Sissyism

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: It was indeed refreshing to read your able editorial "Snobs and the War" in connection with "The New Republic." You achieved a national service in exposing Hearstism. But in "The New Republic" there are an air and a manner much more subtle and effective. It is a type of the sissy. Of old the type was amusing in its feebleness and callowness. In "The New Republic" the same type is manifested, but raised to a more refined level, where it pontificates weekly to the intelligentsia and those who follow in its train.

"The New Republic" is not progressive—that is to say, constructive—but reactionary. Its propaganda tends to slacken manly effort, to make sluggish the moral sense, or at least to soften it with phrases clothed in fine linen and elegantly arrayed. If it only possessed more virility one might forgive or overlook its immense verdancy. In these days, when facts ham-

A Flivver?

Another point against the Henry Ford candidacy for the United States Senate from Michigan—he is a machine man.

Creeling

(From The Evening Sun)

"The Evening Sun" printed last night a photograph furnished by the Committee on Public Information showing two American cavalrymen riding down a very steep hill. Other newspapers, we have no doubt, are publishing and will continue to publish this truly Creelian exhibit of expert horsemanship. The legend accompanying the picture is as follows:

"Cavalry holds its place in warfare still. This official photograph, taken at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, gives an indication of the training that the new men in that branch of our army's service are getting. The hill down which the two cavalrymen are made to seem to be riding straightaway in the 'official photograph' has a grade, we should say, of more than fifty degrees; certainly and obviously it is more than forty-five degrees.

Unfortunately for the Committee on Public Information, the picture itself contains strong evidence of sophisticated manipulation; that is to say, the very steep grade is apparently obtained by the simple and expensive expedient of cutting the edge of the film or print on the bias and away from the actual horizontal and perpendicular. This is shown by the circumstance that while one of the riders is posed for a steep descent, stirrups well forward and body lying far back in the saddle, his companion is depicted as joggling along easily in the position natural for a level road bed, his body from head to heels at right angles to the major axis of his mount. Mr. Creel's second rider could scarcely maintain such a position while descending such a frightful grade as the picture alleges; he would probably be pitched headlong over his horse's head by the ordinary operation of the force which Sir Isaac Newton honored with his distinguished attention.

No living creature doubts the skill and intrepidity of our American cavalrymen. Nobody doubts their ability to ride down hills almost as steep as hills can be made by nature. But what the Committee on Public Information expects to gain for the winning of the war, for the safeguarding of democracy in the world, by officially representing these cavalrymen as performing an impossible feat on the slope of a hill made by scissors passes our comprehension.

The Fighting Age

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: That slackers and probably many others have escaped the draft may be true and might be hard to remedy, but to my mind much of this evil is caused by the mistaken view, as I see it, expressed by political speakers all over the land, and practically by the "four-minute men" in the movies, who tell the man who buys bonds or savings stamps, or builds ships and does other safe and profitable work, who may be physically able to or should bear arms, that such as he does as patriotic a duty as the soldier who gives his life. I firmly believe that this kind of insidious flattery makes many feel at ease who, if the blunt truth were told, would awaken to duty's call, and who they would refuse to claim deferred classification.

May we parents with boys of eighteen to twenty-one bow our heads in humble gratefulness that there still exists among our youths of this age those who gloriously see their duty clearly, and may that spirit in some small measure be understood and appreciated by your correspondent and the many men and women he claims as his acquaintances and who now think as he does. "BON."

New York, Sept. 1, 1918.

Saving Envelopes

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: I read the remarks of Mr. Robert Grimshaw in The Tribune of August 21, and would like to say that the Y. M. C. A. is beat which one would have to get up pretty early, has this form of letter in use in its hut at Camp Syracuse. I have received letters from my brother, who has been stationed there recently, on that kind of stationery. WINFRED STEINMETZ.

New York, Sept. 3, 1918.

His Use for It

(From The Dallas News)

Proving that the world does move, if you had presented a mediæval knight with a modern steel bathtub he would probably have had it cut up into undershirts.